

## CHAPTER II

### THEORY AND METHOD

#### 2.1 Theoretical Framework

This section provides an overview of the theories used to analyze Wanda Maximoff's utterances representing her self-identity in the film *Doctor Strange in the Multiverse of Madness* (2022).

##### 2.1.1 Character and Characterization in Narrative Fiction

In such a component of drama and fiction, characters are undoubtedly the most well-known. A character is any personage that acts, shows up, or is identified as having a role in a literary work (Mays, 2015:219). Literary drama involves the presence of one or more imagined individuals who actively participate in the unfolding events or plot. According to Mays (2015:219-220), a hero is a protagonist with admirable characteristics, whereas an antihero is a protagonist with flaws and no typical heroic characteristics. On the other hand, whether or not the protagonist is heroic, the antagonist is the one who stands in opposition to them (Mays, 2015:219). Characters do not arise randomly, as they do in real life, nor are they influenced by chance or supernatural purpose. Instead, they are purposefully produced by the characterization process. Characterization is defined as "the art and technique of representing fictional personages" (Mays, 2015:222). Characterization is the process of developing and presenting fictitious characters in a narrative to give them realism, appeal, and significance within the plot.

Each character has a significant role in using speech and actions to show specific characteristics in the other characters. They can be characterized not just

by their language choices but also by the way it is said, as how Systemic Functional Grammar is applied for creating meaning from the sentence structures.

### **2.1.2 Systemic Functional Grammar**

Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG) sees language not just as a collection of rules for creating grammatically correct sentences, but also as a tool for creating meaning. Halliday (1994) defined this method highlights that every language choice produced in a sentence has a functional grammar and a linguistic form interpretation. Thus, SFG's primary focus is on how linguistic structures express meaning rather than just sentence form. This makes SFG particularly applicable to discourse analysis, especially transitivity analysis, which is concerned with the organization of participants, processes, and circumstances to represent meaning and experiences in language.

### **2.1.3 Transitivity System**

An important aspect of the ideational multifunction in Systemic Functional Grammar is transitivity. According to Halliday (1994:106-107), transitivity is defined as how the grammatical system represents not only clauses but also their meaning, which contains many processes, participants, and circumstances in a sentence. According to the concept, human experience is represented linguistically by six different process types: material, mental, relational, verbal, behavioural, and existential processes. Additionally, this study focused on these several types of processes to analyze Wanda's self-identity character as a way to express herself in the film. Halliday's (1994) six differing categories of the process are:

### 2.1.3.1 Material Processes

The material process emphasizes the function of grammatical relations in determining who or what performs the action (Actor) and who or what gets its influence (Goal) (Halliday, 1994:109). The following sentences can be viewed as examples of material processes.

The lion	caught	the tourist
<b>Actor</b>	<b>Material Process</b>	<b>Goal</b>
The mayor	dissolved	the committee
<b>Actor</b>	<b>Material Process</b>	<b>Goal</b>

(Halliday, 1994:110-111)

### 2.1.3.2 Mental Processes

The mental process represents three primary categories of sensing: emotional (feeling), cognitive (thinking), and perceptive (seeing) (Halliday, 1994:117). The following sentences represent examples of mental processes.

I	don't like	it
<b>Senser</b>	<b>Mental: Affection</b>	<b>Phenomenon</b>
We	'd hear	it coming
<b>Senser</b>	<b>Mental: Perception</b>	<b>Phenomenon</b>

(Halliday, 1994:118)

### 2.1.3.3 Relational Processes

The state of being is described by the relational process in transitivity, which is divided into two processes: the identifying process, which defines

identity, and the attributive process, which determines quality (Halliday, 1994:119). Examples of relational processes can be seen such as the following.

The daughter	looks	like the mother
<b>Carrier</b>	<b>Process: Intensive</b>	<b>Attribute: Circumstance</b>
Mr. Garrick	plays	Hamlet
<b>Token</b>	<b>Process: Intensive</b>	<b>Value</b>

(Halliday, 1994:135-136)

#### 2.1.3.4 Behavioural Processes

In behavioural process, a clause consists of Behavior and Process, which are physiological and psychological related behaviour or mental activities like breathing, sleeping, laughing, and considering, which reflect the person's acts related to body or mental functions (Halliday, 1994:139). The following sentences can be viewed as examples of behavioural processes.

She	sang	a song
<b>Behavior</b>	<b>Behavioural Process</b>	<b>Range</b>
He	gave	a great yawn
<b>Behavior</b>	<b>Behavioural Process</b>	<b>Range</b>

(Halliday, 1994:139)

#### 2.1.3.5 Verbal Processes

The verbal process in transitivity signifies communicating information verbally, in which the clause comprises the actor (Sayer) and the speech action

(Halliday, 1994:140). The following sentences become examples of verbal processes.

The light	says	stop
<b>Sayer</b>	<b>Verbal Process</b>	<b>Verbiage</b>
My watch	says	it's half past ten
<b>Sayer</b>	<b>Verbal Process</b>	<b>Verbiage</b>

(Halliday, 1994:140)

#### 2.1.3.6 Existential Processes

The existential process in the transitivity system shows the existence of something and is often expressed by verbs (Halliday, 1994:142). The following sentences are examples of existential processes.

There	was	a storm
	<b>Existential Process</b>	<b>Existent</b>
There	was	an old woman
	<b>Existential Process</b>	<b>Existent entity</b>

(Halliday, 1994:143)

#### 2.1.4 Self-Identity

According to a definition of self-representation, self-concept is shaped by one's self-image, feelings, and emotions (Oyserman, Elmore, and Smith, 2012:69). Characters can express their identities both directly and indirectly through their words, while other character's views and responses can influence the shaping and revealing of that identity. Oyserman et. al (2012:69) stated that identities serve as a cognitive framework that directs attention and contextual

meaning-making, influencing how people see themselves through their particular characteristics, roles, and social relations.

Additionally, people are worried about themselves, seeking to understand who they are; this awareness is considered to have an impact on their motives, self-perception, actions, emotional experiences, and self-control (Oyserman, Elmore, and Smith, 2012:70). According to the concept of “Reflected Appraisal”, other people have a big influence on how self-views define themselves through what is known as the “looking-glass” (Wallace & Tice, 2012:124). Thus, self-perceptions have an impact on how someone views what other people think of them. Therefore, it may be argued that Wanda builds her self-identity by her views about her destiny and power, but her social relations constantly challenge and influence her self-identity.

## **2.2 Research Method**

This section outlines the research method used in this study, such as the type of research, data, data source, population, sample, method of collecting data, and method of analyzing data.

### **2.2.1 Type of the Research**

The study was designed using a descriptive-qualitative research method. According to Flick (2022:376), descriptive research generally focuses on objective phenomena, which are those that can be viewed, heard, read, or elicited and analyzed by gathering data methods, such as evaluation. On the other hand, qualitative research is mainly concerned with preparing the study for data

collection and processing in order to get interpretations or representations (Flick, 2022:7).

This method is used to represent Wanda Maximoff's self-identity character in *Doctor Strange in the Multiverse of Madness* (2022) by applying a transitivity analysis to classify her utterances based on the kinds of processes.

### **2.2.2 Data, Data Source, Population, and Sample**

The primary data for this study was the film released in 2022 and produced by Marvel Studios, *Doctor Strange in the Multiverse of Madness*. The film was available online on the streaming platform Disney+ Hotstar. The data source includes a film script downloaded from the website Moviepedia, while also looking at the film's subtitles by watching it to see whether or not it is acceptable. The data population is all the clauses selected from the pronoun "I" in Wanda's utterances that refer to self-identity. The total sampling data was selected for analysis with a focus on representing Wanda's self-identity.

### **2.2.3 Method of Collecting Data**

Observation of the social events, actions, and interactions, often with field notes to get an ideological viewpoint, is used in qualitative research (Marshall and Rossman, 2016:278). To collect the data, the study uses this observation method that was conducted by watching the film *Doctor Strange in the Multiverse of Madness* (2022) and paying great attention to Wanda's character. Then, a note-taking technique was used to collect the data of Wanda's utterances in the film script. However, the utterances are selected and chosen with the understanding that the study's limited focus is Wanda's self-identity. The selected data were

collected and classified into the kinds of transitivity processes. Then, all the data is divided and categorized for analysis to represent Wanda's self-identity. Moreover, the transitivity processes of Wanda's utterances were identified from specific keywords to represent the factors that influenced this self-identity.

#### **2.2.4 Method of Analyzing Data**

The study analyzes the data when all observations are represented using a distribution method. A characteristic observed often gets better represented through a distribution or as a range of values rather than a single number (Brito and Dias, 2022:4). In this study, Wanda's utterances in *Doctor Strange in the Multiverse of Madness* (2022) were classified and presented in each table of Halliday's (1994) transitivity processes. Then, every selected utterance was divided to be analyzed to see how Wanda's self-identity is constructed regarding the type of process. Furthermore, the transitivity analysis aimed to identify which factors influenced Wanda's self-identity represented in the film. After analyzing the data, the study concluded by presenting the results of the analysis to show how Wanda constructs her self-identity in the film.